

#160
 8/8/02
 (NE)

U.S.S.N. 09/380.773

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In the Claims

38. (Twice Amended) A method for the preparation of a polyester, comprising the steps of: culturing recombinant cells under conditions suitable for the production of the polyester, wherein the recombinant cells [co-express a polyhydroxyalkanoic acid synthase protein and] have been genetically engineered to express a polyhydroxyalkanoic acid synthase and a fatty acid:acyl-coenzyme A transferase protein under the control of a single promoter. } new matter
 new issue - ~~unsubstantiated~~

52. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the cell [is genetically engineered to express] expresses a heterologous nucleic acid segment encoding a protein capable of hydrolyzing a lactone to the corresponding hydroxyalkanoic acid.

53. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the cell [is genetically engineered to express] expresses [a]heterologous nucleic acid segments encoding 2-oxyglutarate decarboxylase protein and a heterologous 4-hydroxybutyrate dehydrogenase protein.

54. (Twice amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the cell [is genetically engineered to express] expresses a heterologous nucleic acid segment encoding a protein selected from the group consisting of a 2-methylcitrate synthase protein, a 2-methylcitrate dehydratase protein, 2-methylisocitrate dehydratase protein, 2-methylisocitrate lyase protein, a succinate:aceyl-CoA transferase protein, a succinate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase protein, and a 4-hydroxybutyrate dehydrogenase protein.

55. (Twice amended) The method of claim 38, wherein the cell [is genetically engineered to express] expresses [a]nucleic acid segments encoding succinate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase protein, and a 4-hydroxybutyrate dehydrogenase protein.

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